

Section by Section
H.R. 798,
The Methamphetamine Remediation Research Act of 2005

Section 1. Short title.

The Methamphetamine Remediation Research Act of 2005

Section 2. Findings.

Section 3. Voluntary Guidelines.

Requires the Assistant Administrator for Research and Development at the EPA (EPA), in consultation with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), to establish within one year voluntary guidelines for the remediation of former methamphetamine labs, including preliminary site assessments and the remediation of residual contaminants.

Requires the Assistant Administrator to consider relevant standards, guidelines and requirements in federal, state and local laws and regulations, the varying types and locations of former methamphetamine labs, and the expected cost of carrying out any proposed guidelines in developing the guidelines.

States that the voluntary guidelines are to be used to assist state and local governments in the development and implementation of legislation and other policies to apply state of the art knowledge to the remediation of former labs. Requires the Assistant Administrator to work with state and local governments and other relevant nonfederal agencies and organizations, including through the conference in section 5, to promote and encourage the appropriate adoption of the voluntary guidelines.

Requires the Assistant Administrator to periodically update the voluntary guidelines, in consultation with states and other interested parties, as necessary and appropriate to incorporate research findings and other new knowledge.

Section 4. Research Program.

Requires the Assistant Administrator to establish a program of research to support the development and revision of the voluntary guidelines in section 3. Requires research to identify methamphetamine laboratory-related chemicals of concern, assess the types and levels of exposure to chemicals of concern that may present a significant risk of adverse biological effects, better address biological effects and minimize adverse human exposures, evaluate the performance of various methamphetamine laboratory cleanup and remediation techniques, and support other priorities, identified by the Assistant Administrator in consultation with states and others.

Section 5. Technology Transfer Conference.

Requires the Assistant Administrator to convene within 90 days and every third year thereafter a conference of state agencies and other individuals and organizations involved

with the impacts of former methamphetamine laboratories. States that the conference should be a forum for the Assistant Administrator to provide information on the voluntary guidelines and the latest findings of the research program as well as an opportunity for the nonfederal participants to provide information on their problems, needs and experiences with the voluntary guidelines.

Requires the Assistant Administrator within three months to submit a report to Congress that summarizes the proceedings of the conference, including any recommendations or concern raised and a description of how the Assistant Administrator intends to respond to them. Requires the report to be made widely available to the general public.

Section 6. Residual Effects Study.

Requires the Assistant Administrator to enter into an arrangement with the National Academy of Science within six months to study the status and quality of research on the residual effects of methamphetamine laboratories. Requires the study to identify research gaps and recommend an agenda for the research program in section 4. Requires the study to focus on the need for research on the impact of methamphetamine laboratories on residents of buildings where labs are or where located, with particular emphasis on the biological effects on children and on first responders.

Section 7. Methamphetamine Detection Research and Development Program.

Requires the Director of NIST, in consultation with the Assistant Administrator, to support a research program to develop new methamphetamine detection technologies, with emphasis on field test kits and site detection and appropriate standard reference materials and validation procedures for methamphetamine detection testing.

Section 8. Savings Clause.

Provides that nothing in this Act shall be construed to change the regulatory authority of the EPA.

Section 9. Authorization of Appropriations.

Authorizes \$3 million for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2009 for the EPA.
Authorizes \$1.5 million for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2009 for NIST.